

R E V I E W.

Thursday, March 26. 1713.

WHile I am opposing the Interest of the Pretender, it seems I do not please every body, because I do not oppose him their way; but time will discover whether their way or mine is right.

The Notion now in vogue, is, That opposing the present Peace, and the present Measures, is the only way to keep out the Pretender: The Gentlemen that think so, are welcome to try; I doubt they have seen themselves in the wrong that way already; and I am perswaded they are convinc'd that more Temper at first might have prevented many things which have been done, and which would not have been done, if Moderation on one side had left room for Moderation on the other; let time alone to increase that Conviction. I cannot but digress a little from my Subject of the Pretender, to observe a little to you some Particulars of what I have seen acted from the beginning, I mean the Imperial Councils and Conduct, as it relates to the Confederacy.

We have had a great Contest among us about the Barrier to be given to the *Dutch*; and some have made us believe that the Managers here were for taking away that Barrier, and for leaving the States General exposed. It is true, That the impolitical rash Conduct of Prince *Eugene*, last Summer, lost the *Dutch* a great deal of Ground, and broke the Measures of the States; made the *French* able to take an extent of Land, and several Towns, which some would have added to the Barrier. But it is as true, That the *Dutch* have a Barrier given them now, greater, and stronger than ever they so much as demanded in former times; and that besides what they have in Possession, the *French* are now to surrender to them some of the strongest Places in *Europe*, such as *Newport*, *Tpres*, *Charleroy*, *Namur* and *Luxemburgh*.

But that which I mention these things for now, is this, That after all that *Britain* and *Holland* has done for the Emperour, the only Party in *Europe* who grutches the States General their Barrier, and opposes their Possession of the Military Government in the Towns they are to enjoy, and that refuses to comply with the Allowance granted to subsist their Troops in Garrison there. Is this moderate, grateful thing call'd an Emperour?

Nothing is plainer, than that the Blood and Treasure of *Britain* and *Holland* has been the Purchase of these Towns: Nothing is plainer, than that the design of Conquering them was, that the Emperour should enjoy them; that is, That he should be the Sovereign, enjoy the Revenue of the Countries, the Civil Government, and the Title of their Lord and Prince: But that under him, the strong Cities and Towns should be Garrison'd, and kept by the *Dutch* as a Barrier against *France*, to defend both *Eritain* and *Holland*; for their Barrier is our Barrier too, and was always esteem'd so. Nothing is more certain than that the Power and Interest of *Britain* and *Holland* set this Prince upon the Imperial Throne; and that without their Concurrence he had never been Elected. By this Peace, bad as you call it, and bad as he counts it, he, the Emperour, has gain'd more than all the other Powers concern'd in it; King *Philip* excepted; the Emperour has gain'd the Dutchy of *Milan*, the Kingdom of *Naples*, and the Dutchy of *Mantua*, with all the *Spanish* Towns on the Coast of *Tuscany*; and he has gain'd the entire Provinces of *Flanders*, *Brabant*, *Haynault*, *Namur*, *Luxemburgh*, *Limburgh*, and part of *Guelderland*.

All this is the Purchase of the *English* and *Dutch* for him; all the Assistance he has given in the Conquest of them has been but little, compar'd to what they have done; and yet this is the Man, this the Court who disputes with the *Dutch* the Possession of their Barrier, and supports at this time the Council of State of *Brabant* in opposing of Her Majesty and the States General, in the administration of the Civil Government of that Province, which it was agreed they should exercise till the Peace; and how the *English* and *Dutch* Commissioners have been insulted in that Affair, I need not relate.

Is this then the Power to whom you would have annex'd the *Spanish* Monarchy? Is this the Person to whom you would have committed the exorbitant Power you have been pulling down in *France*? If he has been five Year disputing about an Inch and half of Ground, for no more is it in Comparison, to what has been Conquer'd for him with the Duke of *Savoy*; and even at last would venture the Duke of *Savoy's* falling in with *France*, rather than comply with that just

just Demand of the *Vigevano* : What would you have, to expect from him, if in Connexion with the Empire, you had given him the *Spanish* Monarchy ?

I know not, nor can any foretel, what good or evil Consequences may attend the present conceding the *Spanish* Monarchy to *Philip V.* Nor will I say how far the House of *Bourbon* will, or will not perform the Stipulations of the Engagements which they are now enter'd upon ; Time must discover those things. But I see abundant reason, and every Day more and more to say, That it cannot well be worse than it would have been, to have vested the House of *Austria* with that Power ; a House that we see never parts with any thing no, not to those by whom it gains every thing, that never gets for it self, or does Justice to those that get for it.

Is this the testimony of Imperial Gratitude ! Is this the Prince for whom we have push'd at that Rate, and at such Expence ! Is this the Power, for the giving *Naples* and *Sicily* to whom, the former Treaty of Peace was broke off, and came to nothing, and a hundred Thousand Mens Lives lost in carrying the War on ! Is this the Power that was to have been entrusted with the Wealth of the *Indies* and strength of *Germany* joyn'd together ?

Regard but his Kindness to the Protestants, in his strictly artiling against the least Tolleration in the Towns, which the *Dutch* are to possess with difficulty, agreeing that they may have private Chappels for their own Garrisons ; nay, in some of their Disputes, the Imperial Agents would have obliged the *Dutch*, that no Inhabitant should be admitted to come to the Protestant Worship, and so have made the *Dutch* a Party against the work of Reformation.

Regard the Respect this grateful *Austrian* shews to the *English* and *Dutch* now at *Brussels*, where Her Majesty's Commissioners, who in Conjunction with the *Dutch*, were by former Stipulation, to administer the Civil Government till the War was over, are insulted by the Council they themselves chose at *Brussels* ; and who, taking upon them to act in the Emperour's Name, refuse to take their Orders from those who legally constituted them ; and when they are commanded not to act, they positively answer they will act, whether the Lords of the Conference will or no.

I could go on to convince you of the danger the Protestant Interest had been in, if this Exorbitant *Austrian* had been made too great for *Europe*, by repeating several other Instances of the encroaching Practices of the Imperial Court upon the Interests of the Confederates, both Civil and Religious ; and I question not, but time will contribute new Light into those things every Day, by which we shall, ere long, be thankful to God, however the *Spanish* Monarchy is bestow'd, that it was not bestow'd upon the Person of the Emperour.

I do not, by this, at all enter into the Enquiry of the State of the Peace.

For my part I am of none of your Opinions about it.

Te say that by this Peace the House of *Bourbon* made too great.

I say that by that Peace the House of *Austria* was made too great.

Now the *French* seem to be made too strong.

Then the Emperour.

Persecutors and Papists are all alike to me.

I see no more of safety to the Protestant Interest or the Protestant Religion in one Treaty, than the other.

I fear the event of this Treaty in the *French* Power ; and I fear'd the event of that in the *Austrian* not a Barrel the better Herring.

But the *French* King is a Perfidious breaker of his most sacred Treaties.

Go ask the Protestants of *Hungary* and *Silesia* how the Emperours have kept the most sacred Treaties with them.

But the *French* King has been a cruel Persecutor of Religion, and has extirpated the very Protestant Name out of his Dominion.

But the Emperours have been cruel Persecutors of Religion, and have extirpated the very Protestant Name out of *Bohemia*, and all his Hereditary Dominions ; and has now done his best to do the like in *Hungaria*.

Had a due regard been had to the safety and advantage of the Protestant Religion, neither the former Treaty at the *Hague*, or this at *Utrecht*, had ended as they have done.

These are the Reasons why I have always professed openly, what I have argued for, (*viz.*) Such a Peace as should have strengthened the two Protestant Allies, *Britain* and *Holland*, so as to have made them United, superiour in Strength and Power to all the Popish Persecutors of *Europe* ; and have given them the *French* Woolf, and the Imperial Boar, in a Struggle with Hooks in their Noses, so to be govern'd and turn'd, as never more to have been in a Posture to have put the Protestant Interest, or the Liberties of *Europe* again in Danger.

If I should say there was any more regard had to the Safety of the Protestant Interest, in the former Treaties than there has been in this : I should lie gainst Conscience and Knowledge, how that matter or this will issue, I have nothing to do with, we must judge by what appears.

We say the *French* are not to be trusted.

That may be very true, for ought I know.

Those who have ventur'd it with *Austria*, say they are not to be trusted.

God forbid the Protestant Religion should be at the Mercy of either of them.